

CLAIMS:

1. Apparatus for supplying to a subscriber via a mobile telecommunications network changing information for each of a plurality of different sets of data, the apparatus comprising:

first receiving means for receiving said changing information;

second receiving means for receiving said changing information in synchronism with said first receiving means;

a data base for storing information received by the first receiving means relating to said different sets of data;

communication means for establishing communication with a subscriber via a mobile telecommunications network;

a subscriber profile store for storing information associating a subscriber with a group of said different sets of data;

means for supplying to a subscriber via the mobile telecommunications network information from the data base for the group of data sets associated in the subscriber profile store with that subscriber when communication with that subscriber is established; and

means for supplying from said second receiving means to the subscriber via the mobile telecommunications network changing information relating to the group of data sets associated with that subscriber once said 5 information has been supplied to the subscriber from the data base.

2. Apparatus for supplying to a subscriber via a mobile telecommunications network changing price information for 10 a plurality of different sets of financial market data, the apparatus comprising:

first receiving means for receiving said changing price information;

15 second receiving means for receiving said changing price information in synchronism with said first receiving means;

a data base for storing price information received by the first receiving means for said plurality of financial market contracts;

20 communication means for establishing communication with a portable computer of a subscriber via a mobile telecommunications network;

25 a subscriber profile store for storing information enabling identification of each of a group of sets of financial market data in which a subscriber is interested

in receiving changing price information;

means for supplying to a subscriber's portable computer via the mobile telecommunications network information from the database for the group of sets of financial market data associated with that subscriber in the subscriber profile store when communication with that subscriber's portable computer is established; and

means for supplying to the subscriber's portable computer via the mobile telecommunications network changing price information for each of the sets of financial market data in the group associated with that subscriber as changing price information is received by said second receiving means once said information has been supplied to the subscriber from said database.

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3. Apparatus according to claim 2, wherein the database comprises a data store having a plurality of files each arranged to store changing price data for a specific set of financial data.

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4. Apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the first receiving means is arranged to identify the financial exchange and contracts to which received changing price information relates and to store that changing price information in the data file for that contract in the

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data store.

5. Apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the first receiving means is arranged to replace existing price 5 information in a data file with updated price information as the updated price information is received.

10. 6. Apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the subscriber profile store is adapted to associate a particular set of data with each subscriber interested in receiving changing information for that set of data.

15. 7. Apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 6, wherein the subscriber profile store is adapted to associate sets of data with different character strings.

20. 8. Apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the subscriber profile store is arranged to store the different character strings using a ternary tree structure.

25. 9. Apparatus according to claim 8, wherein each end node of the ternary tree representing a different one of said character strings is associated with the subscriber

or subscribers interested in changing information for the set or sets of data associated with that character string.

5 10. Apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the subscriber profile store is arranged to associate a subscriber with said group of sets of data only while communication is established with the subscriber using the communication means.

10 11. Apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the communication means is arranged to determine whether a subscriber is able to receive information and to store said information in a data structure if the subscriber is unable to receive information.

15 20 12. Apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the communication means is arranged to send the information stored in the data structure as soon as it determines that the client is able to receive information.

25 13. Apparatus according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the communication means is arranged to send the client new information rather than information previously stored in

the data structure so that the subscriber receives the most recent information.

14. Apparatus for supplying to a subscriber via a mobile
5 telecommunications network continually changing price
information for a plurality of different sets of financial market data, the apparatus comprising means for determining which of the different sets of financial market data a subscriber is interested in and means for supplying to the subscriber via the mobile telecommunications network only updated or changed information for the set or sets of financial market data in which the subscriber is interested.

15. Apparatus for supplying to a subscriber via a mobile
telecommunications network continually changing price
information for a plurality of different financial exchange contracts, the apparatus comprising means for determining which of the different exchange contracts a subscriber is interested in and means for supplying to the subscriber via the mobile telecommunications network only updated or changed price information for the financial exchange contract or contracts in which the subscriber is interested.

16. Apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the different sets of data comprise different contracts on any one or more of the following types of financial exchanges: commodity (future and/or option), index, stock, foreign exchange.

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17. Apparatus according to any of claims 1 to 16 also adapted to communicate changing news data to subscribers.

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18. Apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 17, wherein the first and second receiving means are arranged to receive changing information from at least one information provider.

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19. Apparatus according to any one of claims 1 to 17, further comprising satellite communication means for communicating with an information provider for receiving changing information for supply to the first and second receiving means.

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20. A subscriber apparatus for communicating via a mobile telecommunications network with information supplying apparatus for supplying to the subscriber changing information for each of a plurality of different sets of data, the subscriber apparatus comprising:

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a user input interface for enabling a user to input subscriber profile data identifying a group of said sets of data in which the subscriber is interested;

5 communicating means for communicating the subscriber profile data to the information supplying apparatus;

receiving means for receiving from the information supplying apparatus via the mobile telecommunications network changing information for the group of sets of data identified by the subscriber profile data communicated to the information supplying apparatus; and

10 advising means for advising a user of the received changing information.

21. Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the
15 advising means comprises a display for displaying the changing information to a user.

22. Apparatus according to claim 20 or 21, further comprising means for storing subscriber profile data for
20 future use.

23. Apparatus according to claim 20, 21 or 22, further comprising means for informing the information supplying apparatus when the receiving means is ready to receive
25 information.

24. Apparatus according to any one of claims 20 to 23, further comprising storing means for storing received information.

5 25. Apparatus according to any one of claims 20 to 24, wherein the storing means is arranged to store received information while the advising means is advising a user of previously received information.

10 26. Apparatus according to any one of claims 20 to 25, further comprising data storing means configured to store unchanging data for each of the different sets of data available from the information supplying apparatus.

15 27. Apparatus according to any one of claims 20 to 26, wherein the data storing means is configured to store data identifying each different set of information and data identifying the different fields of changing information for each different set of information.

20 28. Apparatus according to any one of claims 20 to 27, wherein the different sets of data comprise contracts on one or more financial exchanges.

25 29. Apparatus according to claim 27, wherein the

different sets of data comprise financial exchange contracts and the data identifying each contract comprises information relating to the contract name and exchange and the different fields comprise price data fields.

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30. Apparatus according to any one of claims 20 to 29, wherein the subscriber apparatus comprises a portable computer having mobile telecommunications facilities.

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31. Apparatus according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein a group can consist of one or more sets of data.

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32. A system comprising apparatus in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 19 and at least one subscriber apparatus in accordance with any one of claims 20 to 31.

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33. A method of supplying to subscribers via a mobile telecommunications network changing information for each of a plurality of different sets of data, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving changing information from an information provider;

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storing received changing information in a database;

storing subscriber profiles indicating which of the different sets of data a subscriber is interested in;

establishing communication with a subscriber via the mobile telecommunications network;

5 supplying information stored in the database for the data sets in the subscriber's profile to the subscriber over the mobile telecommunications network when communication is established with the subscriber and thereafter supplying changing information for the data sets in the subscriber's profile directly to the subscriber over the mobile telecommunications network as that changing information is received.

15 34. In an information supplying apparatus having a receiver for receiving changing information, a subscriber profile store for storing subscriber's profiles, a database for storing information and a communicator for communicating with subscribers over a mobile telecommunications network, a method of supplying to subscribers via the mobile telecommunications network changing information for each of a plurality of different sets of data, the method comprising the steps of:

20 receiving changing information from an information provider;

25 storing received changing information in a database;

storing subscriber profiles indicating which of the different sets of data a subscriber is interested in; establishing communication with a subscriber via the mobile telecommunications network;

5 supplying information stored in the database for the data sets in the subscriber's profile to the subscriber over the mobile telecommunications network when communication is established with the subscriber and thereafter supplying changing information for the data sets in the subscriber's profile to the subscriber over the mobile telecommunications network as that changing information is received.

15 35. A method of supplying to subscribers via a mobile telecommunications network changing financial information for each of a plurality of different sets of financial market data, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving changing financial information from an information provider;

20 storing received changing financial information in a database;

storing subscriber profiles indicating which of the different sets of financial market data a subscriber is interested in;

25 establishing communication with a subscriber via the

mobile telecommunications network;

supplying financial information stored in the database for the financial market data sets in the subscriber's profile to the subscriber over the mobile telecommunications network when communication is established with the subscriber and thereafter supplying changing financial information for the financial market data sets in the subscriber's profile to the subscriber over the mobile telecommunications network as that changing financial information is received.

36. A method according to claim 35, which comprises storing in the database as said changing information changing price data.

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37. A method according to claim 36, which comprises identifying the financial exchange and contract to which received changing price data relates and storing that changing price data in a file related to that contract.

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38. A method according to any one of claims 33 to 37, wherein existing changing information in the database is replaced as new changing information is received.

25 39. A method according to any one of claims 33 to 38,

wherein the subscriber profile storing step comprises associating a subscriber with codes relating to the or each set of data in which the subscriber is interested.

5 40. A method according to any one of claims 33 to 38, wherein the subscriber profile storing step comprises associating different character strings with sets of data and associating a subscriber with a character string relating to a set of data in which the subscriber is
10 interested.

41. A method according to claim 40, which comprises arranging the character strings in at least one ternary tree structure.

15 42. A method according to any one of claims 33 to 41, which also comprises communicating changing news data to subscribers.

20 43. A method according to any one of claims 33 to 42, wherein changing information is received by satellite communication from at least one information provider.

25 44. A method of operating a computer having mobile telecommunications facilities to enable communication via

a mobile telecommunications network with information supplying apparatus for supplying to the subscriber changing information for each of a plurality of different sets of data, the method comprising:

5 receiving via a user input device subscriber profile data identifying a group of said sets of data in which the subscriber is interested;

communicating the subscriber profile data to the information supplying apparatus;

10 receiving from the information supplying apparatus via the mobile telecommunications network changing information for the group of sets of data identified by the subscriber profile data communicated to the information supplying apparatus; and

15 advising a user of the received changing information.

45. A method according to claim 44, which comprises advising a user by displaying changing information to a 20 user on a display of the computer.

46. A method according to claim 44 or 45, further comprising storing subscriber profile data for future use.

47. A method according to any one of claims 44 to 46, further comprising storing received information received while a user is still being advised of previously received information.

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48. A method according to any one of claims 44 to 47, further comprising storing unchanging data for each of the different sets of data available from the information supplying apparatus in data storing means of the computer.

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49. A method according to claim 48, wherein the stored data identifies each different set of data and the different fields of changing information for each different set of data.

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50. A method according to any one of claims 44 to 49, wherein the different sets of data comprise contracts on one or more financial exchanges.

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51. A method according to claim 49, wherein the different sets of data comprise financial exchange contracts and the data identifying each contract comprises information relating to the contract name and exchange and the different fields comprise price data

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fields.

52. A signal carrying processor implementable instructions for programming a processor of apparatus having mobile telecommunications facilities to become configured as apparatus in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 31 or to carry out a method in accordance with any one of claims 33 to 51.

10 53. A computer program product comprising processor implementable instructions for programming a processor of apparatus having mobile telecommunications facilities to become configured as apparatus in accordance with any one of claims 1 to 31 or to carry out a method in accordance with any one of claims 33 to 51.

15 54. A computer storage medium storing a computer program product in accordance with claim 53.